

The craft of Grafting

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and planting of trees, &c.

and of 19. four parts of the year, of the
 full of elements of 2. damnable days, also
 of measuring of land &c. / imprinted by
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It is a very common mistake to suppose that the
theology of the Middle Ages is a mere repetition of
the ideas of the Fathers. In fact, it is a new
theology, based on the ideas of the Fathers, but
developed in a new way. The Middle Ages
were a time of great intellectual activity, and
theology was no exception. Theologians of the
Middle Ages were not content with repeating the
ideas of the Fathers, but they sought to
develop them in a new way. They were
interested in the logical foundations of
theology, and they sought to establish the
truth of the Christian faith on a rational
basis. This was the great contribution of the
Middle Ages to theology. It was a time of
great intellectual activity, and the theology of
the Middle Ages was a new theology, based
on the ideas of the Fathers, but developed
in a new way.



I n grafted fruite that shall haue no
core. Take a graffe and bove it both
ends combing, & cut both ends graf
wyle, & so fasten them into the stoke.
And yf it growe so with the tree cut
a waye the great ende, and let þ sma
ler ende growe, and hys fruite shall haue no core.

2 yf thou wylt make apples read, take a grafe of an
apple tree and graffe it in a stoke of elme oz allere ad
it shall beare redde apples.

Also another for the same, bore an hole in an apple
tree to the pithe and temper it with water what col
our thou wylt, and then put it in the hole and stop
it with a pin and the apple shalbe of the same colour
that thou putest in the tree.

It is to benoted that every tree that is plantede
and set on. S. Lambardes day in the earth, shall not
perishe but proue and come to profyt.

3 yf thou wylt haue a þere tree full of fruite oz els
as moch as it hath ben wont to bere, tempze scamor
ny with water and put it into an hole that is perced
to the pith of the tree, & stop the hole with a pynne of
that same tree oz of a nother, and it shall beare as yt
was wont and mutche more.

And yf thou wylt haue thē to smell lyke spycer oz
as muske oz bawme oz other spices, make an hole in
lykwise in the tree and stop it agayne, and the fruite
shall smel & sauour after the spices that thou putest
into the tree.

4 yf an olde tree begin to waxe dype, do in thys wyle
quyco

quicken hym agayne. Se that þe cares that is bout
the rotes be done a way, & cleue. ii. or. iii. of the grea
test, rotes wyth an axe, and putte a wedge in to the
cleuyng, and couer the roote agayne with the same
earth.

Another for the same, perce the tree throug wyth
a percer crosse wyse or wyth a wymbale, & the strength
of the tree shall begyn to ware yonge.

S yf thou wilt haue a fruyte tree that is soure, to
be made swete fruyte, delue the tree round about, &
dunge the rotes with pygges donge, and so shall the
fruyte be made swete.

Also another for the same, make an hole in þe soure
tree with a percer to the pythe, and into the hole put
water tempred with hony, and stoppe that hole agai
ne with a pynne of the same tree.

And if thou wilt plante an almonde tree or a wal
not tree, or a Cherye tree or a Peche tre, put the ker
nels of whiche thou wilt in water four dayes, and
than put many kernelles together in to the earth or
seuerally & whan they sprynge & be growen out and
hath stand so an hole yeaer, than take them out of þe
ground, and set them than wher thou wilt, and it is
to be noted that euery tree the braunches muste be
cut in setting tyme, save the peche tree whych must
haue hys dyre braunches cut onely.

7 yf the peche tree begine to droupe, let him be wel
moysted at þe rote w dregges of wyne, and the same
moysting shall kepe hym from sheding of his fruyte,
and some saye that and the rotes be moysted wyth
water of the decoccyon of benes, it shal quicken þe tre
greatly

greatly. and if he caste his frute or thet be ripe, Make
holes wyth a wymbel in the rotes, & make pinnes
of wylowe and Smyte them fast in, & the fruite shall
abide on fast ynough.

8 If an apple tree be gyn to rote or ani of the apples
begen to waxe roty, then the barked of hym is sycke
then cut it with a knife, lette it be opened, and whan
þ humour ther of is sum what flowen ouer, let dong
hym well and stop dyligentlye hys wound with claie.

9 The quince tree al the tyme that he is a ble to be
translated, he would be remoued eueri foure year, &
that shall make him beate great plenty of fruite af-
ter warde.

10 The chery tree loueth colde ayre & moyste grounde
but sum chery trees be full lykyn in hylly places
the best setting of chery trees is in the month of No-
uembre, and if nedeb in the latter ende of Januari
And if the chery tree rote, in any wyse make an hole
with a percer vnder the rote, that the water þ cau-
seth þ rottyng mai haue issue oute, it is to suppose
that this medecyne is good for all maner of trees
that begeth to rot.

Also it is good for all maner of trees whē a bough
is cut a waye, that þ place that is cut be couered w
claie or some other defensible plaster for the defence
of the rayne, that it make note the tree to rot.

11 The plantynge of prunes, in oulde and moysti pla-
ces is best in februarie & Marche & the stones muste
be set a hand brede in the earthe, & whan they haue
stand so an hole yeare, take vp þ springes of them, &
set

Let them deper in the ground, and the stones must lye
in water thre dayes or they be set.

12 The medler wyl beare well if he be plantyd, but
graffe hym in a whyte thorne called an hauthorne,
and they will beare the more plenteously.

13 If thou wilt haue ani roses in thi garden, thou
must take the harde peppys of þ same roses, that be
ryght rype, and sowe them in the earth in february
or in Marche. And when the sprynge, temper them
with water and after þ space of a yeare thou muste
translate them, and depart them farther from other
in whert other place ye wyl.

14 If thou wylt that a vyne beare white grapes, and
on the other side reed, puruay that a white vine and
a reed be set nere together. And whan they be roted
measurably both like mitch, and of either pare cut
halfe endlong vppon þ pythe, and twyne them toge-
ther and bynd them so, that eyther sap met without
disioining, and wrape it together with a souple linnē
cloth. and euery thre day moyst it with water tyll it
grow. And after that they be growne together thou
mayst cut a way the one rote. And þ other may bere
it, and that vyne shall bere both red grapes & whyte
not with standing the one rote be donne a waie, & al-
so thou mayst doe so with tow pere trees tow ap-
ple trees braunches.

15 Also if thou wilt haue grapes grow in a plomtre
or a cherie tree, sett a vine vnder one of thours trees
whiche thou wylt, and whan the vine beginneth to
grow, bore þ other tre throughe with a percer, accor-
dyng

dyng to the greatnes of the vyne, the draw throughte
the tree and pare a waye the vpper ende of the same
vyne as farre as it shall be in the hole, and soo suffice
it to grow, & whan both be ioyned together cut a-
way the rote ende of the vyne by the tree and lowde
that place wel of that cuttyng & drawyng of the vi-
ne throught the hole & the cutting away of the rote
of the vyne & þ muste be done in marche, & some mē
wyl saye it must be done or þ knottes be gine to bur-
gyn, that for that tract drawyng the burgeos be
not hurt, & thā mayst thou dow the sam with diuers
trees & dyuers frutes, & make one tree beare to dy-
uers fruytes of dyuers coloures.

16 Also it is to wyte that at the vine be good earth
sprad it selfe of to many scurges, it is good to cut þ
of wyth a knyfe, & if it lacke yet ouermuche delue the
steeke a bout and fyll the pyt full of grauel of a floude
medled with ashes. Also sum men saye, doo in to þ
pyt a good quantyte of small stones, & that is good
ther fore.

17 Item it is to wite that whā the moone is in Tau-
ro, it is good tyme to plant trees of graenes and pe-
ping, & whan she is in Cácro Leo or Libra it is good
workyng of trees that be new sproung, and whā the
moone is virgo, it is good tyme to lowe all maner
thinges. And frō the myddes of Septembre vnto þ
myddes of December is open tyme of plantyng, and
ryght so from the myddes of Januari to the myddes
of Marche, but yet in thes tymes it is good to those
whan the moone is. v. vi. vii. viii. or. x. dayes be fore
the

the full mone. And after the full in cone when the is
xxi. xxi. xxi. xxi. 02. xxv. dayes olde, for this quarter
of the mone is most temperate.

Item every plantage is to dispose it so that the **18**
sone beames may come to y^e rote or to y^e earth from
the houre of terce vnto none. And be planted in the
best maner. And that the trees that be bearing a^d of
great height that party that stode toward the north
he be set agaynst the northwynde, and the north west
wynde. For the heght, northwynde, & the north west
wynd hath kynd to kyll and drye to muche the trees
that be newe set for they^r vnmeasurable greatnes,
y^e earth must be ordeined so that it be neither to fat
nor grauelly but proporcionably.

All maner of peppys carnels and greynes must be **19**
set in the earthe in depenes of foure or fyue fingers
brede that eche be from other halfe a fote. Alway ke
pyng thys specyall rule that the ende or grayne of y^e
pepyn that standes next the rotte be northe in y^e set
ting & that other ende vpwart toward heauen. And
that thou moist them twise or thryse in the daye, not
rottyng but dewyng or springlyng, this is a p^reuitie
among connyng men that in uere is most conueni
ble tyme for sedes. graenes & peppys, and Autumne
of springes and plantes.

When thou wilt take a setteleng that springeth **20**
out of an other tre rote, make a delue ther about af
ter the quantite therof & so depe, tyl thou come to y^e
great rote that the springe groweth out of, a^d thou
musse cutte it of, and holdyng the edge of the knyfe
towards

toward the tree ground, and cutte it so with a flope
draught & leaue as much of the earth about þe roote
and stocke of the setting as thou may, and sette it in a
B good ground ordeyned therfore, and in a convenient
tyme as it is before sayd, & if any spryng so groweth
out of any tree chole it that groweth right out that
be not ouer longe, but euen without any small braū
ches, holding the kniue in the cutting alway toward
the tree as is aboue sayde.

21 Also yf thou wilt remoue a tree that is great or
bearyng frute, chole the a full moone frō the middes
of Octobze to the myddes of Dicembze, hauing vp
the rootes as hole as thou may, leauing as much of
his owne earth about the rote as þe maye with the
same maner and other as thou doest with setting of
small trees & setting it is no force though the moone
be not euen in the full so the be in the .ii. or .iii. quar
ter, the gouernayle of these plantes is dublynge of
bearyng of fruite.

22 Also yf thou wilt kepe late set plātes, kepe the frō
helpertyn raynes & from windes, namely in haruest
for it is not great difficulte in here, against the com
myng of wynter set or sticke about the setting many
bowes that the norther wynde or greatnes of other
wyndes destroye it not, put donge medled wth strawe
about the stock toward the roote of a good thicknes
that frost & snow conglye nat on the rote, and make
a depe valey about the rote þe space of .vi. or .vii. fote
that the water abide not and frese about the rote, in
haruest, that is betwene somer & wynter, that when
wynter cometh it may be filled with donge and so let
it stand al the wynter, and in ver put vnder the dong
newe

newe earth and cut a way al the vnprofytable bray-
ches & make it cleane aboute the stocke, and the ro-
tes from wormes curfes and moles and euyl wo-
des goinge aboute the braynches. all the close of
thyme or chard wole be set a boutt wth the other hithe
trees that beare on frute, that the flowers myghte be
kept safe from windes. And beware þ no scuyte
be gathered of no tree before the tyme, for that is a
vyght greute and at prey harmyng to the tree.

The maner of graftyng.

The great stocke must be chosen in good ground, 23
and it must be smothe and even, and cut it wthout
the earth þ length of a foute or more, yf it be as great
as thi thombe or moore, if it be greater loke that the
cutyng be even overthwartte the stocke and a side
and it must be clouen a boue in þ middes of the pith
the length of two fyngers breade, and in the clyfte
set thy graffe whiche must be chosen of the best tre.

The stocke is of the chese graffe that standeth right
upwarde, that hath a knot of the forne yere. And an
ynche beneth that saide knot cut thy graffe & white
it on both sydes even in maner of a wedge as farre
as it shal go in to the clyfte of the stocke, it must be so
even thwiten þ the ayre may not com be twene the
clyfte and the graffe, and then close it wth the good fe-
perate earthe a boutte the graffe for defence of raine
and wether.

If thou wilt graffe diuers frutes vpon one stocke 24
that hath as many braynches as thou wilt haue
graftes on, in euere brayche set a graffe in maner
a fourme as it is sayde before, & euermore chose thy
graft

B.i.

graffe on the sunne side of the tree that beareth it, & next the top yf you may, & than mayst thou graffe by uerse frutes in one clifte, but none of them maye be thpycker then other as thy reason wyl tell the in the working.

25 To haue fruite without cozes, loke thou haue a sufficient graffe stocke. & there w as I sayde be fore chose a graffe of good merle tree, and cut it on thys maner that the end of the graffe that was vpwarde next the fyrmament must be twythen like the neder of a comyn graffe, & the nether ende turned vpward it is to be donne selfe, this rule is trewe in all trees that haue stones & kernels, but a vyne it behoueth to cut that is downe warde next p erth w great conynge and fleyghte.

26 If thou wylt haue a vyne growe on a chery tree & haue the taste of cherys. set a vyne by a chery tree tyll it growe, and in the bebeginning of feuerel what time it be, make an hole throught p chery tre, in what place thou wylt, & as often as thou wilt and drawe through the hole a bradche of the vyne, so that it fyl the hole, & shawe a way the old barke of the vyne as moch as shalbe in the hole. And put it in so that the shawen place of the bradche stop full the hole of the chery tree, and tha cut away the rot ende of the vine and wape it wel a bout wyth good earth & binde it well wyth a lytle cloth, & kepe it well in all thynges it is sayd in other grassynges, but some men leaue the rose ende on cut a yeare tyll it be sowdred w the chery tree, and than cut it a way, and thys is a good maner and a sure, and so it may be done with diuers trees of diuers fruytes, and the grape and the vyne shall

shall haue sauour of cheyne: And so of every tree
may be grafted in other, and it is a maruelous graf-
fing.

If thou wilt haue a tree beate dyuers frutes and
of dyuers colours, and dyuers sauoure, in þe fyrste
yeare graffe in dyuers braunches of a chery tree, di-
uerse apples to thy lykynge, & cleaue some of þe bran-
ches vngrafted, the second yere make holes through
the chery tree, and drawe through that hole vyne
branches, the vtter ende shal be as is before sayde
and in the same maner through an other hole, read
rose and therewith as is before sayd of the vine, and
this diuersite thou may do after thyne owne liking.

If thou wilt haue frutes of dyuers coloures
thou shalt make an hole in a tree nyghe, to the roote
euen to the pith of the tree, and a none do in the hole
good asure of almayne, so that it be nygh full, and
than stoppe the hole well and iust with a shorth pyn,
and wrappe it well with the tempered earthe ad bynde
it well as thou doest a graffe, and the frutes shall be
blewe coloure, and thys maye be doone with all co-
loures.

Also here begynneth a lyttle treatyse of the .iiii.
seasons of the yeare, and also of the .iiii. elementes,
whiche they be and of what nature, and
of the canpuler dayes.

D. ii.

De

The foure elementes be these, ayre, fire, earth
and water, also there ben foure humours in
man, & they be these, bloud, redde colour, blacke to
colour, & fleweme. Also there be foure seasons in the
yeare, in which a man ought and behoueth to be go-
uerned. The first is vere ad that beginneth the viii.
Ide of february, & endureth to the. vii. Ide of Maye
in this thime waxeth blood, this is the fyrst humour
of man and accordeth with the ayre, that is the fyrst
element, for it is watry & hote as is vere, that is the
fyrst time of the yeare. And that time bookes of mede-
cine lerneth vs to take drynckes solyble for to pur-
ge þe body of euil humours, & to eat fleshe, & drynke
drynckes that be holsome for manes body, as yonge
porcke & cleane moton and lambes fleshe, & kyddes
and foules that be of the land, but no water fowles
And freshe water porttes, tame nepes and percelly,
and other herbes of medecine, & to drynke good clea-
ne ale, and no stronge ale. And these thynges make
cleane bloud, so they be not surfetly taken.

The seconde tyme and season of the yere is somer,
and begynneth the. vi. Ide. of May and lasteth vnto
the. vii. of August. In that tyme waxeth red colour
to the second element, that is fyre for that is hote ad
drye. In that tyme men shulde not drynke herbes nor
let bloude, but yf it were for greate ned nor muche
faste.

It is good in that tyme to eat well soden fleshe
of all maner of beastes ad all maner of fowles, saue
porcke in May is good to forbear, and eat all ma-

ner

ner of fythe wyth byneger, or ylle of grappes or ver-
gius made with good herbes, sage, and sauerp, and
seede of annes. senell seede and comyn, & it is good to
drinke wormoode, iiii. tymes in the weke tempered
wyth wyne, all so temper it wyth water and drinke
no stronge ale, and ble louage seede and letous and
they shall temper well the redde colour & kepe them
from sychnes.

The thyrde tyme of the yere is Autumpnus or
haruest, and it be gynneth the. vii. Ide of August. &
lasteth vnto the. vii. Ide of Nouembre, & in that ty-
me waxe the blacke colour, & is the thirde humoure
in man, and accordeth to the. iiii. element, that is earth
and that is colde and drye. In that tyme is it good to
take dryncke soluble that purgeth the bodie of euery
blacke colour that muche is in a man, & he mai some
tyme be let bloude in that season. And eat litel fythe
fleshe, and namely frutes biese and milke is good to
dryncke and good wyne mesurably and good stayle
ale, and newe ale, & eate scaled fythe & peper wyth
ginger and galingale, & eate bayes and stanmarche
sed and comyn, & browort roses wyth wyne or with
other lycoute fasting, and eate not an houre or two
after.

The. iiii. tyme and season in the yere is hyems or
wynter, & begeneth the. vii. Ide of Nouembre and
lasteth to the. vii. Ide of February, & in that tyme en-
treth fletme, & that is the fourthe humour in man. &
accordeth to the fourthe element & is water, for y is
colde and moist as is wynter, and in that tyme men

B. iiii.

shoulde

should let them blood in theyr bodyes by graspinge,
but not no wayes, but if it be the more nede. And a
man must kepe hym fro drinking of strong drynkes
And poudered flesch is good to eat, and for as muche
as al fishes after water be flumattike, therefore thei
be better rost than soden, and vse mustard and peper
and oft tyme chewe in thy mouth pellater of spayne
and suche other thinges as wpll cause the flewme to
voyde, and also eat fenel seede, comyn, & eche of these
seedes destroye flewme that all the cupples in mans
body begynneth of.

The Canicular dayes begynneth the .xv. kalē,
the .vi. ides of August and endure to the .iiii. Nonas
of Septembre in whiche season is great perill to take
the sykkenes, and it is perillous to take drynkes or me-
dicines or to let blood but if it be great nede and
that must be after the myddes of the daye.

The fourme and the measure to mete
land by.

The lenght of a barlei corne thre times make
an ynche, so that the barley growe in comyn
sorte not to leue to much composted, and .xii. ynches
make a fote, and .iiii. fote maketh a yarde, & .v. quar-
ters of the yarde make an elle, fivue fote make a pace
a hundred .xx. pace make a forlonge, and eyght for-
longes make an englyshe myle, and syxtene forlon-
ges make a frenche leuge, fyue yardes din make a
perche in London to mete land by, and that perche is
xv. fote din longe, in dyvers other places in this lād
they

they mete ground by poles, gaddes and roddes, so
me be of .xxviii. fote, some of .xx. & some of .xxi. But
of what length so ever thei be .c. lx. perches make an
aker. for as a marke of englysh moneye conteyneth
an .c. lx. pence, so every aker of land conteyneth .c. lx.
perches, & as a noble conteyneth .lxxx. pence, so halfe
an aker of lende conteyneth .lxxx. perches and as the
halfe a noble conteyneth .xl. pence. so a rode land con
teyneth .xl. perches, & a perche of ground shall con
tayne in length of that perche every way in the man
ner of a checker, so that it be as longe as broade.

In dore.

*Similarity of
the name
of money & me
asuring of land*

xxv fote & a halfe maketh a perche as is a boue said
that is .v. yardes and a halfe. vi. fote by tiuescore
to the hundred maketh a furlong, that is .xxviii. per
ches save two fote, viii. furlonges make an englysh
myle that is .h. ff. fote, & so .lxx. & .iii. perches al so
are an englysh myle.

*perche or pole
& furlong*

In englysh mi

¶ Here endeth this lytle treatyse that speaketh of
plantynge and graffynge of trees, and dyuers o
ther matters, and also of dyuers medy
cynes for mans health.

¶ Imprinted at London in Lothbery ouer agaynst
S. Margarets church by me
Wylliam Copland.